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1 October 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

Cuba: Castro's 28 September speech served notice that he does not intend, as long as US pressure against Cuba continues, to follow the Soviet lead toward the relaxation of East-West tensions.

Castro stressed that "Cuba has its own stand" and that this stand is not only dictated by Cuba's need to defend itself against the "imperialists," but that it is determined by the unique origins and characteristics of the Cuban revolution.

Noting that the US persists in its "policy of aggression" against Cuba, Castro declared that "we will not calmly accept a situation in which tensions decrease elsewhere while they increase for us." Cuba, he declared, cannot consider itself at peace with "imperialists who try to strangle us more and more; they are our enemies and we know how to be theirs."

He stated that this outlook determines Cuba's international policy in general, and toward the nuclear test ban treaty in particular. He thus clearly implied that Cuba will not adhere to the treaty under the present circumstances. The TASS summary of Castro's speech deleted his references to the treaty.

Castro called the present state of US-Cuban relations a "battle between the past and the present." He declared that while "the imperialists" expect the Cuban revolution to be destroyed, there will actually be "many other revolutions like ours" appearing on the continent. He stated that the recent coup in the Dominican Republic demonstrated once again that "there is only one way, one remedy"--the Latin American military class must be liquidated and its principal leaders executed.

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Guinea: Guinea's economy has deteriorated to the point where Sekou Touré's regime is confronted with a major domestic crisis.

In recent weeks there have been many reports of rising discontent both in Conakry and hinterland areas, especially over shortages of staple food items. Food riots have occurred in two places; in at least one of these instances troops were used to suppress demonstrations and casualties resulted. An unprecedented protest march in Conakry was apparently averted last week only through Touré's personal intervention.

A Guinean official has stated that new economic programs will be announced by Touré in an Independence Day speech on 2 October. The official hinted that the speech would reflect a further commitment by the regime to Western investment and a freer economy.

The economy has been declining since 1958 when Guinea, having cut itself off from French aid by opting for independence, imposed a rigid and unworkable system of centralized controls. Bloc aid commitments amounting to \$127 million have contributed virtually nothing to the country's development, while saddling Guinea with a large external debt. As a result, Touré's regime has since late 1961 looked increasingly to the West for aid and taken some steps to liberalize Guinea's economy.

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Common Market-USSR: The EEC's recent offer of tariff concessions to the USSR is intended primarily to get Moscow to deal with the EEC as a unit.

The EEC note offers Moscow Community-wide tariff reductions on certain Soviet exports. In exchange Moscow would abandon past claims that it is entitled to the same tariff concessions from Community members which they grant each other.

According to the US mission, some EEC officials regard the offer as an initial step toward negotiation of a single trade agreement between the Community and the USSR.

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NOTES

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Common Market: EEC Commissioner Rey held out little hope at his meeting with Ambassador Tuthill on 28 September that US-EEC differences over poultry can be bridged and expressed grave concern over the "political effects" of the dispute on future US-EEC tariff negotiations. Rey urged further bilateral talks, but said he was convinced that the EEC members would not agree to the US' retaining its rights to make a compensatory withdrawal of tariff concessions while accepting the EEC offer of a 1.3-cent-per-pound reduction in poultry levies. Rey offered to let the US know later this week if the EEC could agree to GATT arbitration of the value of the trade involved.

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*Pakistan - Communist Bloc: Pakistan and the USSR agreed in principle on 30 September to open Karachi and Moscow airports to Aeroflot and Pakistani International Airlines. This continues Pakistan's policy of expanding its economic relations with the bloc in reaction to US military assistance to India. On 28 September, Pakistan signed two new barter trade agreements with the USSR and Poland, and barter agreements with Communist China, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia are expected to follow.

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*Brazil: At President Goulart's request, a labor court has postponed its decision on the legality of the bank workers' strike. If the strike is declared illegal, the Communist-dominated General Workers Command (CGT) may attempt to call a general strike which they have been threatening; if the strike continues, business may be completely closed down since employers will have no funds to pay month-end salaries. Goulart, who alone is in a position to resolve this tense situation, apparently postponed, for the second time, last night a nation-wide radio-TV address.

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